

What We Claim Is:

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1. Apparatus for processing image data, including memory means for storing image data and processing instructions, processing means for performing said image processing, said instructions defining operations to be performed by said processing means in order to process said image data, said processing means being configurable by said instructions such that:

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an output image is to be matched with a reference image, and a matching transformation has been initialised; and

said operations include the step of:

color sampling pixels in a user-identified region in said output image for matching with a region in said reference image;

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and repeated steps of:

color sampling pixels in a user-identified region in said reference image; updating said matching transformation in response to a color difference between said user-identified regions; and

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updating said output image by processing image data with said updated matching transformation.

2. Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said processing means is further configurable by said instructions such that said updating step is triggered by a completion of a graphical user interface drag event for selecting a user-identified region.

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5 3. A method of processing image data in an image processing system including memory means for storing image data and processing instructions, processing means for performing said image processing, said instructions defining operations to be performed by said processing means in order to process said image data, wherein

10 an output image is to be matched with a reference image, and a matching transformation has been initialised; and

 said operations include the step of:

 color sampling pixels in a user-identified region in said output image for matching with a region in said reference image;

15 and repeated steps of:

 color sampling pixels in a user-identified region in said reference image;

 updating said matching transformation in response to a color difference between said user-identified regions; and

 updating said output image by processing image data with said updated
20 matching transformation.

 4. A method according to claim 3, wherein said updating step is triggered by a completion of a graphical user interface drag event for selecting a
25 user-identified region.

5. A computer-readable medium having computer-readable
5 instructions executable by a computer configured as part of an image processing
system, said computer including memory means for storing image data and
processing instructions, processing means for performing said image
processing, said instructions defining operations to be performed by said
processing means in order to process said image data, said instructions define
10 operations for preparing initial conditions of said image processing means
wherein

an output image is to be matched with a reference image, and a matching
transformation has been initialised; and

said instructions define subsequent operations of said processing means
15 to include the step of:

color sampling pixels in a user-identified region in said output image for
matching with a region in said reference image;

and repeated steps of:

color sampling pixels in a user-identified region in said reference image;
20 updating said matching transformation in response to a color difference
between said user-identified regions; and

updating said output image by processing image data with said updated
matching transformation.

25 6. A computer-readable medium according to claim 5, wherein said
updating step is triggered by a completion of a graphical user interface drag
event for selecting a user-identified region.